

Historical Fiction: Gr. 4-6

All books can be found in the Juvenile Fiction or Juvenile Paperback section by the author's last name.

*This book is part of a series or trilogy.

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CRISPIN: THE CROSS OF LEAD

Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret. Note: 2003 Newbery Award winner.

Burg, Shana A THOUSAND NEVER EVERS

In 1963, as the civil rights movement gains momentum and violence against African Americans increases, the black residents of Kuckachoo, Mississippi, including young Addie Ann Pickett, begin their own struggle for racial justice.

Collier, James MY BROTHER SAM IS DEAD

Recounts the tragedy that strikes the Meeker family during the Revolution when one son joins the rebel forces while the rest of the family tries to stay neutral in a Tory town.

Curtis, Christopher Paul THE WATSONS GO TO BIRMINGHAM –1963

The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

Cushman, Karen THE BALLAD OF LUCY WHIPPLE

In 1849, twelve-year-old California Morning Whipple, who renames herself Lucy, is distraught when her mother moves the family from Massachusetts to a rough California mining town.

Erdrich, Louise THE BIRCHBARK HOUSE

Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.

Fleischman, Sid BY THE GREAT HORN SPOON!

In order to help his aunt pay off her debt to keep her home, Jack and the butler stow away on a side-wheeler bound for California where they join the Gold Rush of 1849.

Gantos, Jack DEAD END IN NORVELT *

In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses. Note: 2012 Newbery Award winner

Gleitzman, Morris ONCE *

After living in a Catholic orphanage for nearly four years, a naive Jewish boy runs away and embarks on a journey across Nazi-occupied Poland to find his parents.

Hesse, Karen OUT OF THE DUST

In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.

Lowry, Lois NUMBER THE STARS

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

Park, Linda Sue THE KITE FIGHTERS

In Korea in 1473, 11 year-old Young-sup overcomes his rivalry with his older brother Kee-sup, who as the first-born son receives special treatment from their father, and combines his kite-flying skill with Kee-sup's kite-making skill in an attempt to win the New Year kite-fighting competition.

Peck, Richard A LONG WAY FROM CHICAGO

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

Ryan, Pam Munoz RIDING FREEDOM

A fictionalized account of Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst who ran away from an orphanage, posed as a boy, moved to California, and fooled everyone by her appearance.

Salisbury, Graham UNDER THE BLOOD-RED SUN

Tomikazu Nakaji's biggest concerns are baseball, homework, and a local bully, until life with his Japanese family in Hawaii changes drastically after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

Smith, Roland

THE CAPTAIN'S DOG: MY JOURNEY WITH THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRIBE

Captain Meriwether Lewis's dog Seaman describes his experiences as he accompanies his master on the Lewis and Clark Expedition to explore the uncharted western wilderness.

Speare, Elizabeth THE SIGN OF THE BEAVER

In the late-eighteenth century, eleven-year-old Matt befriends an Indian boy of the Beaver clan who helps him survive alone in the wilderness.

Speare, Elizabeth THE WITCH OF BLACKBIRD POND

A young girl rebels against the bigotry of her Puritan surroundings in the seventeenth century colony of Connecticut.

Tarshis, Lauren I SURVIVED THE ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 *

When Lucas decides to skip school because he wants to discuss football with a firefighter friend of his father, he finds himself caught up in the terrorist attacks on New York City.

Taylor, Mildred ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY

An African American family fights to stay together and strong in the face of brutal racist attacks, illness, poverty, and betrayal in the Deep South of the 1930's.

Uchida, Yoshiko JOURNEY HOME

After their release from an American concentration camp, a Japanese-American girl and her family try to reconstruct their lives amidst strong anti-Japanese feelings which breed fear, distrust, and violence.

Vanderpool, Clare MOON OVER MANIFEST

Twelve-year-old Abilene Tucker is the daughter of a drifter who, in the summer of 1936, sends her to stay with an old friend in Manifest, Kansas, where he grew up, and where she hopes to find out some things about his past. Note: 2011 Newbery Award winner.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE *

A family travels from the big woods of Wisconsin to a new home on the prairie, where they build a house, meet neighboring Indians, build a well, and fight a prairie fire.

Yep, Laurence DRAGONWINGS

In the early twentieth century a young Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine.

* AMERICAN GIRL, DEAR AMERICA, MY NAME IS AMERICA, and ROYAL DIARIES are additional historical fiction series.

